

The Goal is Simple: To Be the Best



The Caltrans Improvement Project is exactly what the name implies.

Called for by Governor Brown, the Caltrans Improvement Project is an enterprise-wide, multi-year reform effort in response to an external report from the State Smart Transportation Initiative, an academic institute out of the University of Madison, Wisconsin, made up of respected State DOT Directors and Transportation Academics from across the country.

The goal of this project is as straightforward as it is ambitious: to make Caltrans the best department of transportation in the nation.

The first significant change came last September, with the creation of a new mission, vision and goals for Caltrans. These new tenets provide direction for all of Caltrans' programs, and form the strong foundation on which CIP is building.

The chief purpose of the new mission vision and goals was to diversify the purpose and effect of Caltrans and reflect a more comprehensive approach to serving Californians.

In addition to the long-held goals of safety and mobility, now economy, livability, and sustainability are integrated into everything that the department does.

In today's world, Caltrans focuses on much more than just auto mobility, vehicle throughput or level of service for individual vehicles. California has changed, and is changing still. This process will help Caltrans adapt and evolve to better meet the diverse needs of California's traveling public. We're redefining success to make sure our work enhances communities and efficiently moves people and goods.

We are more focused than ever on multi-modalism, transit and active transportation as solutions to our collective transportation challenge.

For more information about the Caltrans Improvement Project: visit www.dot.ca.gov/cip



For example, Caltrans is helping administer two programs that fund existing low carbon transit operators and intercity and rail capital improvements, through cap and trade auction proceeds

Caltrans is also administering the new and popular Active Transportation Program, whose demand is far outstripping its supply. It has already provided hundreds of millions of dollars to projects all over the state.

Whether you use your feet, bike peddles, public transit, or a car to get where you want to go, Caltrans is supporting your choice.

Because we know that incorporating all of these components is the only way to ensure a sustainable and responsible transportation system that can balance the needs of the environment and the economy. We're endeavoring for a greener transportation system.

By supporting modal choice, along with instituting new programs and operational practices, Caltrans is committing itself to sustainability.

Sustainability means paying due attention to our people, our collective prosperity, and, most of all, our planet. We cannot prosper, we cannot stay healthy, and we cannot protect our planet without taking sustainability seriously.

In our state, 38 percent of our carbon emissions come from the transportation sector, according to Air Resources Board. So attaining our clean air goals will inevitably involve a transformed transportation system.

Times and system users' needs and priorities have changed. The residents of California value sustainability as well as mobility; better access to destinations through connectivity and integration between modes, and choices for mobility; and safety across all modes they may choose to use.

Residents want to easily move around their home state, but they also want their home state's environment to remain healthy, and for its beauty and bounty to be around for their progeny and theirs.

This process is helping Caltrans adapt and evolve to these new needs and priorities, putting in the elbow grease to buff it out and realign its efforts with the expectations the traveling public specifically, and the populace of California in general.

Leading this comprehensive effort is a Strategic Direction Group co-chaired by California Transportation Agency Secretary Brian Kelly and Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. Aided by a project manager, there is a working group for each of the five key aspects of reform: Performance Management and Human Resources; Smart Investment and Resource Alignment; Strategic Partnerships; Innovation, Flexibility and Risk Management; and Communication.

